

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate, the concentration of calcium bicarbonates being at least about 200ppm, comprising the steps of:

5 adding calcium hydroxide to waste water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of at least about 200ppm of calcium in a form of calcium bicarbonate, the quantity of calcium hydroxide to be added ranging in 75 to 125% of the equivalent weight to calcium; and

10 removing the calcium ~~by fixing it to~~ precipitation thereof in the form of calcium carbonate.

2 (canceled)

3 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1, in which the quantity of calcium hydroxide to be added ranges in 90 to 110% of the equivalent
5 weight to calcium.

4 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1, further comprising the step of

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defluorination by adding calcium carbonate to primary waste water
5 containing HF.

5 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate
claimed according to claim 1, in which the water contains about
200ppm to 500ppm of said calcium bicarbonate of 200ppm or more.

6 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate
~~claimed according to claim 1 in which~~ , the concentration of
calcium bicarbonate being at least about 200 ppm, comprising the
5 steps of:

adding calcium hydroxide to waste water containing a
concentration of at least about 200 ppm of calcium in a form of
calcium bicarbonate;

said adding step ~~comprises~~ including that the calcium
10 hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from
8.5 to 10.5; and

removing the calcium by precipitation thereof in the form of
calcium carbonate.

7 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate

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claimed according to claim [[2]] 1, further comprising the step
of defluorination by adding calcium carbonate to primary waste
5 water containing HF.

8 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate
claimed according to claim [[3]] 6, further comprising the step
of defluorination by adding calcium carbonate to primary waste
5 water containing HF.

9 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate
claimed according to claim [[2]] 6, in which the water contains
said calcium bicarbonate of 200ppm or more.

10 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate
claimed according to claim [[3]] 9, in which the water contains
said calcium bicarbonate of about 200ppm or more to about 500ppm.

11 (canceled)

12 (canceled)

13 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from
water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate

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claimed according to claim 8, in which the water contains said calcium bicarbonate of about 200ppm or more to about 500ppm.

14 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim [[2]] 1 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

15 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 3 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

16 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 4 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

17 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from water containing a ~~high~~ concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 5 in which said adding step comprises

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that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water
to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

18-20 (canceled)